
MAGAZINE

10D CLASS MAGAZINE

LITERATURE

HISTORY OF NUCLEER WEAPONS

WAR CRİMES

WAR CRIMES

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Definition of War Crimes

War crimes are defined by international agreements such as the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their additional protocols, the United Nations Charter, and the 1998 Rome Statute. These crimes pertain to specific actions that occur during war or conflict situations.

The fundamental elements of war crimes include:

Attacks on groups that should not be targeted: Warring parties must not target civilians and non-combatants. Civilian settlements, hospitals, schools, and religious structures must be protected during war.

Mistreatment of prisoners: Subjecting prisoners of war to physical or psychological torture, killing them, or treating them inhumanely is considered a war crime.

Attacks aimed at exterminating populations: Attacks carried out with the intention of annihilating a population based on ethnicity, religion, or nationality constitute genocide and, in some cases, can also be classified as war crimes.

Use of prohibited weapons and war tactics: Certain weapons and methods used during war are prohibited under international law. For instance, the use of chemical, biological, or blinding weapons is banned.

Human rights violations such as mistreatment, torture, and rape: Acts such as mistreating civilians, prisoners, or the wounded, subjecting them to torture, and committing rape are also classified as war crimes.

Legal Framework of War Crimes

The legal framework for war crimes has been established through various international agreements. These agreements form the foundation of the rules accepted in inter-state relations and among warring parties. Some of the most important legal documents include:

Geneva Conventions (1949): These conventions set fundamental rules for protecting civilians and prisoners of war during conflicts. The Geneva Conventions are one of the most critical references in defining war crimes.

Rome Statute (1998): This statute established the International Criminal Court (ICC) and explicitly defines war crimes, creating an international system to prosecute those responsible for such crimes. The Rome Statute includes war crimes alongside genocide, crimes against humanity, and crimes of aggression.

International Criminal Court (ICC): Established by the Rome Statute, the ICC is the authorized court for prosecuting war crimes. The ICC was created to try individuals who commit war crimes, and cases can only be referred to it by member states or the United Nations Security Council.

United Nations Security Council (UNSC): The United Nations plays a vital role in preventing war crimes and punishing those responsible. The Security Council has the authority to impose sanctions on individuals or states involved in war crimes.

International Court of Justice (ICJ): Established to resolve disputes between states concerning war crimes, the ICJ examines state responsibilities regarding war crimes but does not have the authority to prosecute individuals.

Punishment of War Crimes

The prosecution and punishment of war crimes are complex processes under international law. Individuals responsible for war crimes can be tried in national courts as well as in international tribunals.

The severity of the punishment is determined by factors such as the gravity of the crime, the conditions under which it was committed, and the role of the perpetrator.

The International Criminal Court (ICC) handles cases related to war crimes and can impose various penalties, including imprisonment, asset confiscation, and other forms of punishment.

War crimes have historically been associated with human rights violations, atrocities, and barbaric acts in different wars and periods. These crimes have not only occurred between warring parties but have also been committed against civilians, leading to actions aimed at the extermination of populations.

The definition and prosecution of war crimes have become essential components of evolving international law. The historical background of war crimes traces back to the development of laws that first defined unlawful acts during war.

The evolution of war crimes has been shaped by changes in international relations and ethical considerations over time.

Historical Process: The Evolution of War Crimes Definitions

1. Early Periods and Traditional Laws of War

In ancient times, wars were primarily seen as battles or conquests between opposing sides. However, even then, there was an understanding that certain rules and traditions should be followed. For example, in ancient Rome, it was accepted that prisoners of war should be treated with respect. Similarly, during the Middle Ages, chivalric codes promoted ethical conduct in warfare. However, these rules were not strong enough to define and regulate war crimes comprehensively.

2. The 19th Century and the Beginning of Modern War Law

In the 19th century, with the industrial revolution and the development of war technology, wars became more destructive. However, the first concrete steps have been taken to define and prevent war crimes.

Established in 1864, the Geneva Convention (in its original form) was the first international treaty stating that medical assistance should be provided to the wounded and hospitals protected during war. This convention built a foundation for the law of war crimes that would later develop.

3. The First World War and the Definition of War Crimes

The First World War caused massive destruction and disaster. The war saw serious violations on both sides, including violence against civilians, forced labor and the use of chemical weapons.

The Treaty of Versailles and the Versailles Court, established in 1919 in the end of the war, was an important step towards defining war crimes. However, the trial of war crimes was not totally successful during this period. The inadequacy of the legal structures for war crimes and the indifference of states resulted in the lack of punishment of criminals and weak trials.

4. The Second World War and the Nuremberg Trials

The Second World War was a landmark in the definition and punishment of war crimes. The genocides committed by the Nazis showed how destructive and deadly war is for all humanity. In this era, genocides such as the Holocaust, as well as the torture of prisoners of war, attacks on civilians and atrocities committed in occupied territories, went down in history. After the Second World War, an international legal framework was established to punish war crimes. The Nuremberg Tribunals (1945-1949) were established to try war criminals of Nazi Germany. In these trials, Nazi officials were accused of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. The Tribunal widened the definition of war crimes and for the first time a large-scale trial process was started. The Nuremberg Trials established

the idea that war crimes should be applied not only against high-ranking officials such as heads of state or army commanders, but also against war criminals at all levels.

5. Cold War Period and the Bosnian War

The Cold War period was marked by a lack of serious progress in the international community on the punishment of war crimes because of the tension between ideological blocs. However, in the early 1990s, the conflict in the former Yugoslavia marked an important landmark in the punishment of war crimes. The Bosnian War (1992-1995) went down in history as a conflict in which war crimes and crimes against humanity were committed on a large scale. The Bosnian Serb forces committed crimes against Bosnian Muslims, including mass genocide, rape, forced labor and ethnic cleansing. The international community did not remain silent about these crimes and the International Criminal Tribunal (ICTY) was established to judge war crimes committed in Bosnia. The ICTY was the first serious international trial organ for war crimes and was an important step forward in punishing war criminals.

Conclusion

This research focuses on the definition of war crimes, the circumstances in which they are committed and their responsibilities under international law. War crimes go beyond the atrocities inherent in warfare and include acts that seriously harm fundamental human rights. While the International Criminal Court and the other judicial departments have taken important steps to punish war crimes, there are still significant challenges in preventing these crimes and punishing their perpetrators.

The findings of the research revealed that war crimes are committed not only by military forces, but also by governments, paramilitary groups and sometimes by civil society. Moreover, one of the biggest barriers to combating war crimes is the political and military powers' tendency to avoid responsibility. In relation to this issue, it concluded that the international community should build a stronger and more independent order.

Last but not least, it is really important to strengthen preventive measures such as education, early warning systems and diplomatic remedies to combat and prevent war crimes. The effectiveness of legal mechanisms will only be possible with a strong political. Thus, it is most important that all governments and international organisations take up their responsibilities and cooperate to bring about justice.

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History of Nuclear Weapons



In 1968, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) was signed to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons. However, some countries, such as North Korea, refused to accept the agreement. Today, while nuclear weapons are not considered an immediate threat, they still pose a serious danger to the Earth, the ecosystem, and biological life. Some countries continue to develop nuclear weapons. It should not be forgotten that a nuclear war would lead to destroyed homes, the deaths of many innocent people, an increase in cancer cases, and severe environmental consequences. The energy released during a nuclear explosion is divided into four main categories: Blast (40-50%), Thermal Radiation (30-50%), Ionizing Radiation (5%), and Residual Radiation (5-10%). The use of nuclear weapons has led to one of the most devastating events in history, and their future remains a critical issue for the world.

Nuclear weapons were discovered in the 20th century, and uranium is the most important material for these weapons. In 1938, German scientists Otto Hahn and Fritz Strassmann discovered that uranium produces a great amount of energy. This discovery was highly significant for warfare. During World War II, the USA, England, and Canada launched the Manhattan Project, a major scientific effort to develop the first nuclear bomb. In August 1945, the USA dropped two atomic bombs on the Japanese Empire, targeting two of its largest and most important cities, Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The first bomb, named "Little Boy," was dropped on Hiroshima, followed shortly by "Fat Man" on Nagasaki. As a result, Japan surrendered and ended the war. However, these bombs caused massive destruction and killed hundreds of thousands of people, demonstrating to the world the devastating power of nuclear weapons. Additionally, Albert Einstein contributed to the development of these bombs.



The effects and destroy of nuclear weapons

A nuclear explosion creates powerful shock waves. These waves destroy buildings, roads, and trees, drastically changing the landscape. Animals lose their homes, and nature struggles to recover. The land remains damaged for a long time, making it difficult for ecosystems to return to normal.



The explosion also causes massive fires, burning trees, forests, and houses. Thick smoke rises into the air, making it dirty and difficult to breathe. Both humans and animals suffer from breathing problems due to the toxic air pollution caused by the explosion. Additionally, the fires release toxic gases and ash into the atmosphere, affecting global air currents and climate.

Radiation from a nuclear explosion spreads through the air and land, causing severe health problems. People may experience vomiting, hair loss, and long-term illnesses. Over time, radiation exposure can lead to cancer and genetic mutations, affecting future generations. Animals and plants also suffer; some species struggle to reproduce, while others die out completely. Nuclear weapons cause lasting harm to people and nature, and the damage they create cannot be reversed.



Diffusion of Nuclear Technology

The diffusion of nuclear technology is divided into two: nuclear energy production and nuclear weapons development. Since the late 1940s, nuclear energy has been used as a power source around the world. However, the development and use of nuclear weapons also create threats. In the mid-20th century, especially during the Cold War, the spread of nuclear weapons became a global threat.

With the increase in the use of nuclear technology, international agreements have been made to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons

International Agreements

Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

It is the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), signed in 1968. The NPT tries to stop nuclear weapons spreading and wants nuclear energy to be used for peaceful purposes. The NPT has three main principles:

Disarmament: "Countries with nuclear weapons should work to decrease them."
Non-proliferation: Stopping nuclear weapons from spreading to more countries

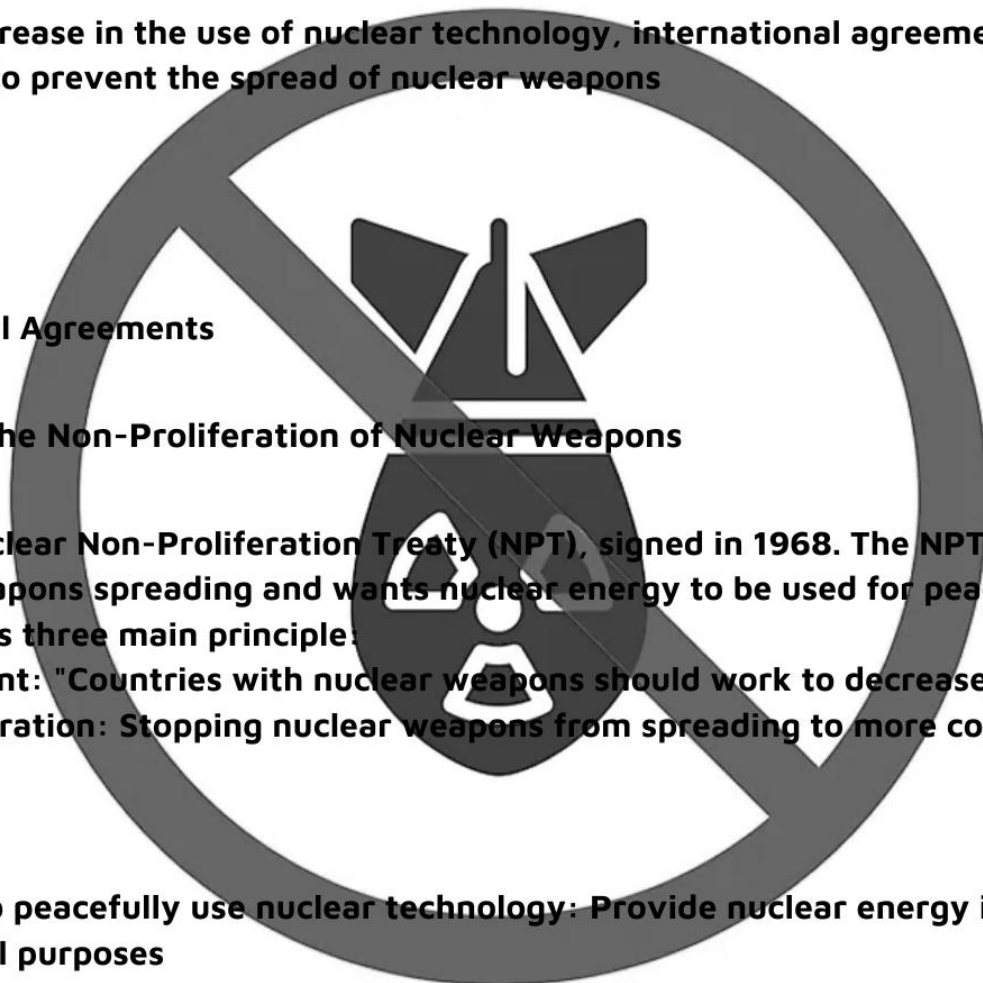
The right to peacefully use nuclear technology: Provide nuclear energy is used only for peaceful purposes

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was founded on July 29, 1957. Nuclear Science and Provides support to countries in the use of technology for peaceful purposes

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)

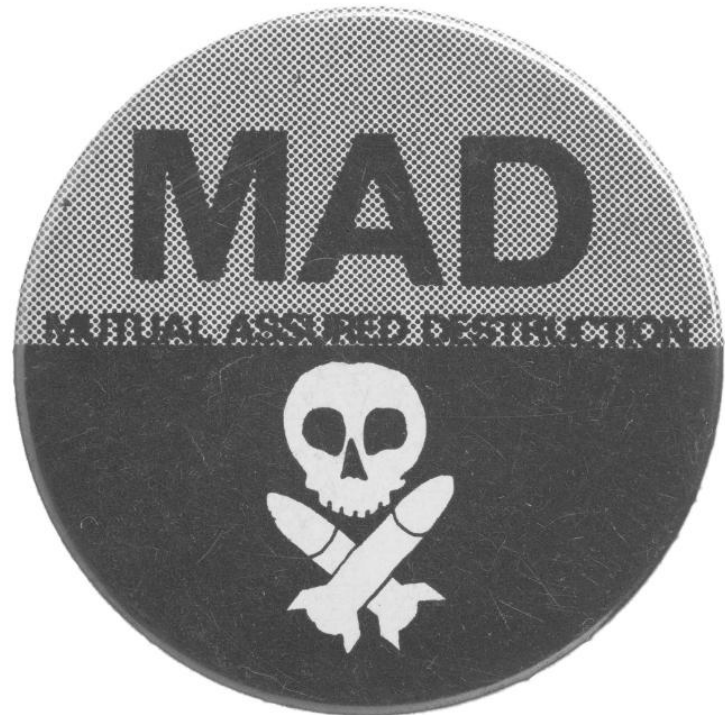
The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), signed in 1996, prohibits the testing of nuclear weapons. Purpose of this agreement to prevent the development of nuclear weapons and stop future tests.



Strategic Use of Nuclear Weapons and Security

Nuclear weapons play an important role in both military and diplomatic strategies in the modern world. After the Second World War, the use of nuclear weapons became a factor directly affecting world security. The strategic use of nuclear weapons goes beyond mere military power and functions as a show of power and a factor in international peace

From a strategic point of view, especially during the Cold War, nuclear weapons were used by the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, as a means of deterrence based on their capacity for mutual destruction. This gives way to a tactic known as the "Mutually Assured Destruction" (MAD) tactics. The MAD diplomacy is based on the understanding that nuclear war would be highly damaging for both sides, and it has been used to stop the outbreak of nuclear war. But this strategy is based not only on security based on the need to have nuclear weapons, but also on the need not to use nuclear weapons.



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The strategic use of nuclear weapons can also be thought of for the destruction of specific targets in military operations. But the use of nuclear weapons in this way would not only have military results, but could also result in civilian deaths on a large scale, environmental damage and long-term radiation effects. So, it is clear that the use of nuclear weapons is illegal under international law and poses major ethical and humanitarian problems. The risks of nuclear weapons have given reason for the need to keep these weapons under control.

From a security perspective, non-use of nuclear weapons has been one of the most important diplomatic goals around the world. The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) aims to limit the number of nuclear weapons, as well as to promote international cooperation for non-use of nuclear weapons and secure the peaceful use of nuclear energy. But, some countries have developed nuclear weapons without becoming parties to the NPT. This creates a global security risk and causes the emergence of new nuclear weapon races.



In final result, while nuclear weapons are an important tool in strategic security policies, their use and proliferation pose serious threats to world peace and security. The reality of these weapons calls for a global policy of checks and balances. Control and verification of nuclear weapons can only be achieved through international cooperation and diplomacy, and this is critical for the security of not only states, but of all

Nuclear Disarmament

Nuclear weapons make a global security and peace threat for world. For this reason, the international community has developed various agreements and movements to reduce and eliminate nuclear weapons. This process includes not only political and military balances between countries, but also economic and humanitarian characteristics.

One of these attempts is the START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) agreements signed between the USA and Russia. START I, signed in 1991, wanted the parties to reduce the number of strategic nuclear weapons. Later, the New START agreement signed in 2010 provided the limitation of nuclear warheads and missile launchers and strengthened the control mechanisms between the parties. These agreements purposed to control the nuclear arms race while keep strategic deterrence.



Another important agreement was the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). This treaty, which applied in 1970, forces nuclear-armed countries to reduce their weapons and take steps to prevent increase. Besides, NPT supports peaceful nuclear technologies use. Under this agreement, countries that dont have nuclear weapons are prevented from acquiring them, while current nuclear powers by stages encouraged to disarm.

Also disarmament attempts plays lead role to destroy nuclear weapons. Organizations such as Amnesty International, Greenpeace and ICAN (International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons) goals for a world free of nuclear weapons by keep under pressure governments. ICAN, won the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize for sucessments in this zone. At the same time, the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) was applied 2021, legally banning the use, development and stocking of nuclear weapons.



After all, the reduction and elimination of nuclear weapons is important thing for global security. International agreements and disarmament movements are very important to remove this danger. However, for this process to be successful, all countries need to move together, be more open and focus their military plans on peace. It is of great importance to continuously support international dialogue and diplomatic efforts for a more peaceful world in the future.

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Vedat Kayra BAĞRIAÇIK: Strategic Use of Nuclear Weapons and Security

Kaan CERİT: History of Nuclear Weapons

Fatih BOZKURT: Diffusion of Nuclear Technology

Ali ÇELİK: The effects and destroy of nuclear weapons

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LITERATURE

Literature gives us information about history, religion, traditions, and customs. It helps us understand different cultures. Also, literature improves our reading and writing skills. According to the Turkish Language Institution, literature is the art of expressing events, thoughts, feelings, and dreams in an aesthetic way.

World literature started with stories, legends, and epics told by people. Over time, different countries wrote their own literature. Epics like The Epic of Gilgamesh and The Iliad are important works of world literature. Literature developed over centuries, and new types like poetry, theater, and novels came up.

Turkish literature also started with oral traditions. Works like Dede Korkut Stories and The Epic of Köroğlu were passed from generation to generation. Later, with the influence of Islam, Turkish literature took ideas from other countries. In Divan literature, poetry was important, and in folk culture, stories and songs were common. In the Tanzimat period, novels and theater came from the West. Today, Turkish literature continues to develop with the influence of different cultures.

PRE-ISLAMIC TURKISH LITERATURE



Prior to the advent of Islam, Turkish literature primarily existed in oral form, with narratives being conveyed through storytelling rather than written texts. This tradition persisted until the 10th century, during which the Turkish people led a nomadic lifestyle, frequently relocating with their livestock. Consequently, their literature often centered around themes of nature, warfare, heroism, and cultural traditions.

*Oral Literature**

The cornerstone of pre-Islamic Turkish literature was its oral tradition. Stories, songs, and poems were transmitted orally from one generation to the next. Storytellers and poets, known as ozans or kams, recounted epic tales, songs, proverbs, and riddles, which served to preserve the community's history, values, and customs.

Among the most renowned epics from this period are the *Epic of Oghuz Khan* (*Oğuz Kağan Destanı*) and the *Epic of Manas*. These narratives celebrate the exploits of formidable and valiant warriors who defended their people.

They showed the importance of courage, loyalty, and unity.

Written Literature

Most literature in this period was oral, but some works were written. The most important example is the Orkhon Inscriptions, written in the 8th century. These are large stones with writing from the Göktürks in Old Turkic script. They contain messages from Bilge Khagan, Kul Tigin, and Tonyukuk.

These inscriptions talk about leaders, wars, and history, showing how Turks lived and ruled their lands.

Main Themes

Pre-Islamic Turkish literature had many important themes
Heroism and bravery – Stories about strong warriors who protected their people.

Loyalty and unity – The idea that people should help and support each other.

Nature and spirits – Many Turks believed that nature had spirits and respected the sky, mountains, and rivers.

Conclusion

Pre-Islamic Turkish literature was very important for preserving Turkish culture and history. Even though most of it was not written down, it influenced later Turkish literature and traditions. These stories helped the Turkish people remember their past, heroes, and values.



TURKISH LITERATURE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ISLAM



After the 10th century, many Turkish people accepted Islam. This change affected Turkish literature

in many ways. New themes, words, and writing styles appeared. Turkish writers and poets started using Arabic and Persian words and wrote about religion, love, morality, and wisdom. During this period, Turkish literature developed in three main forms: Divan literature, folk literature, and religious literature.

Divan Literature

Divan literature developed under the influence of Persian and Arabic poetry. It was written in a rich and complex language, with many foreign words. Poets followed strict rules and used different poem types:

Gazel – a type of short poem that deals with emotional themes like love, longing, and sadness. It is

written in aruz meter and has a free rhyme scheme.

Ghazals use a lyrical style to express deep meanings and strong emotions.

Example:

Öyle ser-mestem ki idrâk etmezem dünyâ nedir;
Ben kimim, sâki olan kimdir, mey ü sahbâ nedir?
Gerçi cânândan dil-i şeydâ için kâm isterem
Sorsa canân bilmezem kâm-ı dil-i şeydâ
nedir. Vasıdan çün âşıkı müstağni eyler bir visâl
Âşıkâ mâ'şuktan her dem bu istiğnâ nedir? Hikmet-
i dünyâ vü mâfihâ bilen ârif değil.

Ârif oldur bilmeye dünyâ vü mâfihâ nedir. Âh ü
feryadın Fuzûlî incidipdir âlemi

Ger belâ-yı aşk ile hoşnûd isen gavgâ nedir?

FUZULİ

Kaside – a long poem, usually praising a person or an event. It is written in the aruz meter and typically contains 30 to 100 lines. Kasides focus on themes like heroism, love, or nature, using rich and artistic language.

Example:

Bu Őehr-i Sitanbûl ki bî-misl ü behâdır
Bir sengine yekpâre Acem mülkü
fedâdır
Bir gevher-i-yekpâre iki bahr
arasında
HurŐid-i cihân-tâb ile tartılsa sezâdır
Altında mı üstünde midir cennet-i a'lâ
Elhak bu ne hâlet bu ne hoŐ âb u
hevâdır
İnsâf[1] deđildir anı dünyâya
deđiŐmek
Gülzâr[1]ların cennete teşbîh[i]
hatâdır
İstanbul'un evsâfını mümkün mü
beyân hiç
Maksûd[1] hemân sadr-ı kerem-kâra
senâdır
Ez-cümle Nedîmâ kulun ey Âsaf-ı
devrân
Müstađrak-ı lütf u kerem ü cûd u
atâdır



NEDİM

Mesnevi – a short narrative that usually revolves around one or a few events. It includes characters, setting, and time. The events focus on the emotions and thoughts of the characters. The storytelling is simple and concise, aiming to impact the reader in a short time.

Example:

Duy Őikayet etmede her an bu
Ney,
Anlatır hep bu ayrılıklardan bu
Ney.
Der ki; feryadım kamıŐlıktan gelir,
Duysa her kim, gözlerinden kan
gelir.
Ayrılıktan parçalanmış bir yürek,
İsterim ben, derdimi dökmem
gerek.
Őayet aslından biraz ayrılrsa can,
Öyle bekler, vuslata ersin zaman.
Ağladım her yerde, hep ah
eyledim,
Gördüğüm her kul için, dostum
dedim.
Herkesin zannında dost oldum
ama;
Kimse talip olmadı esrarıma.(...)



MEVLANA

Divan literature was popular among scholars, poets, and palace members, but it was difficult for ordinary people to understand.

Folk Literature

Folk literature was oral and simple, passed from generation to generation by poets (aşiks). It used pure Turkish and was easy to understand. The main types of folk literature were:

Mani – a short, anonymous poem in Turkish folk literature, usually consisting of four lines. It is written in syllabic meter and follows the common rhyme scheme of "aaxa." Manis express simple themes like love, separation, and nature, and are passed down orally from generation to generation.

Example:

Kara tren ak tren

Askerleri say tren

Benim yarım kırkbeşti

Postasıyla say tren

İki çeşme yanyana

Su içsem kana kana

Bana ediresini ver

Mektup yazayım sana

Türkü – A folk song, known as "Türkü" in Turkish, is a song from Turkish folk music that is usually anonymous and widely sung by the people. Folk songs express the emotions, lives, history, loves, and sorrows of the people. Their melodies are generally simple and natural. Folk songs can be related to a region, event, or person and are an important part of oral culture.

Example:

<https://youtu.be/oIZhgRyQFWQ>

Destan (Epic) – an epic poem in folk literature that tells the stories of great events, such as heroism, love, and war. These poems are usually anonymous and describe the lives and achievements of historical or mythical heroes. They are written in poetic language and passed down orally.

Example:

The Epic of Alp Er Tunga, The Epic of Oguz Kagan, The Epic of Migration

Hikâye (Folk Tale) – a short narrative that usually revolves around one or a few events. It includes characters, setting, and time. The events focus on the emotions and thoughts of the characters. The storytelling is simple and concise, aiming to impact the reader in a short time.

Folk literature was popular among common people because it reflected their daily lives and emotions.

Religious Literature

Religious literature focused on Islamic beliefs, morality, and the life of Prophet Muhammad. It was

written in both poetry and prose. Some important types include: Mesnevi – a short narrative that usually revolves around one or a few events. It includes characters,

setting, and time. The events focus on the emotions and thoughts of the characters. The storytelling is simple and concise, aiming to impact the reader in a short time.

Ilahi – Hymns are religious songs composed to praise God or various sacred persons or

beings. The word "ilahi" comes from Arabic and means "O my God!".

Hymns have been an

important part of religions and beliefs since ancient times.

Adı Güzel Kendi Güzel Muhammed – Yunus Emre

Canım kurban olsun senin yoluna,
Adı güzel, kendi güzel Muhammed,
Şefâat eyle bu kemter kuluna,
Adı güzel, kendi güzel Muhammed
Mü'min olanların çoktur cefâsı,
Ahirette olur zevk-u sefâsı,
On sekiz bin âlemin Mustafâ'sı,
Adı güzel, kendi güzel Muhammed
Yedi kat gökleri seyrân eyleyen,
Kûrsûnün üstünde cevlân eyleyen.
Mi'râcda ümmetin Hak'dan dileyen,
Adı güzel, kendi güzel Muhammed
Ol çâriyâr anın gökler yâridir,
Anı seven günahlardan beridir,
On sekiz bin âlemin serveridir,
Adı güzel, kendi güzel Muhammed
Aşık Yunus neyle iki cihânı sensiz,
Sen Hak Peygambersin şeksiz, gümânsız



Sana uymayanlar gider imânsız,
Adı güzel, kendi güzel Muhammed

Mevlid – Mevlid is the name given to literary texts in verse that are written and composed to be read at celebration ceremonies for the birthday of Muhammad in Islamic literature.

Mefhar – i Mevcudât, Hazret-i Fahr-i Alem

Muhammed Mustafâ râ Salevât

Allâh adın zikredelim evvela

Vacib oldu cümle işte her kula

Allâh adın her kim ol evvel anâ

Her işi âsan eder Allâh anâ

Allâh adı olsa her işin önü

Hergiz ebter olmaya anın sonu

Bir kez Allâh dese şevkile lisan

Dökülür cümle günah misli hazan(...)

SÜLEYMAN ÇELEBİ

Tasavvuf (Sufi) Literature – a literary genre that focuses on Sufi thought and mystical teachings. This literature is written about the search for Allah, inner peace, love, and deep spiritual meanings. Poets often use symbolism, metaphors, and deep meanings to express spiritual experiences.

Religious literature helped spread Islamic culture and values among Turkish people.

Conclusion

Islam had a strong impact on Turkish literature. Divan literature was complex and artistic, influenced by Persian and Arabic poetry. Folk literature was simple and close to daily life, while religious literature helped spread Islam. These three types of literature shaped Turkish culture for centuries and are still important today.



TURKISH LITERATURE UNDER WESTERN INFLUENCE

Turkish literature under Western influence changed a lot from the last years of the Ottoman Empire to the early years of the Republic. From the middle of the 19th century, Turkish literature started to modernize with the effect of Western literary movements. Western ideas, art styles, and social changes shaped Turkish literature. In this period, Turkish literature became different in both content and form. Turkish writers followed Western literature but also created a new identity.

Tanzimat Period (1839-1876)

The Tanzimat Period started in 1839 with the Tanzimat Fermanı. This was an important change in Ottoman law and society. At the same time, Turkish literature also started to change with Western influence. The French Revolution gave ideas like freedom, equality, and justice. Ottoman intellectuals liked these ideas, and literature also followed them.

In this period, literature aimed to educate and inform the people. Writers like Şinasi, Namık Kemal, and Ziya Paşa followed the Romanticism movement. They wrote about freedom, equality, and people's rights. Namık Kemal wrote plays to educate the public. He used Western-style theater to show social problems. The poets of this period used poetry to criticize society and educate people. The most important characteristic of this period was the influence of Romanticism. Writers criticized the feudal system in the Ottoman Empire. Also, new literary genres from the West came into Turkish literature.

Servet-i Fünun and Fecr-i Ati Period (1890)

After Tanzimat, in the 1880s, Turkish literature changed again. Servet-i Fünun and Fecr-i Ati groups followed Realism and Naturalism from the West. They wrote about individual life, society, and human psychology.

Servet-i Fünun writers used Realism and focused on individual and psychological themes. Halit Ziya Uşaklıgil was the most important writer of this group. He used Realism to write about Turkish society and human life. Hüseyin Rahmi Gürpınar used humor and Naturalism to criticize society. His novels showed the problems of Ottoman people.

Fecr-i Ati writers followed Symbolism and Impressionism from the West. They believed in “art for art’s sake.” Cenap Şahabettin and Halit Ziya used modern literary techniques in their poems. The Fecr-i Ati movement brought new artistic ideas to Turkish literature.

Republic Period (1923-...)

After the Republic of Turkey was established in 1923, Western influence became stronger. This period brought Modernism, Impressionism, and Surrealism into Turkish literature.

Yahya Kemal Beyatlı used Western aesthetic ideas in Turkish poetry. His poems talked about individual freedom and social values. Ahmet Haşim followed Impressionism and wrote about the relationship between nature and people. Cenap Şahabettin used Symbolism and brought a new artistic view to Turkish literature.

Orhan Veli Kanık and his friends used simple language and daily life themes in poetry. They followed Dadaism and Surrealism from the West. Orhan Veli used everyday language to create modern Turkish poetry. This group brought Modernism into Turkish poetry and made literature more connected with society.

Western Influence in Different Literary Genres

Western influence changed Turkish literature in many ways:

1. Poetry

- Romanticism, Realism, and Modernism influenced Turkish poetry.
- Tanzimat poets wrote about freedom, equality, and justice.
- Servet-i Fünun and Fecr-i Ati poets focused on individual life and psychology.
- Republic poets used simple language and daily life themes, following Western Modernism.

2. Novel

- Tanzimat and Servet-i Fünun writers used Realism and Naturalism.
- Halit Ziya Uşaklıgil adapted Realism to Turkish society and wrote deep psychological novels.
- In the Republic Period, modern novels became more abstract and deep, influenced by Western Modernism.

3. Theater

- Tanzimat Period introduced Western drama to Turkish literature.
- Namık Kemal's Vatan Yahut Silistre was one of the first modern Turkish plays.
- In the Republic Period, theater focused more on social problems, following Western Modernism.

Western influence changed Turkish literature a lot. From Tanzimat to the Republic Period, Western literary movements shaped Turkish literature. New literary genres and techniques came into Turkish literature. Western literature helped Turkish literature modernize and become part of world literature.

Turkish literature adapted universal values like freedom and individual rights. This made Turkish literature richer and more global.

NAMIK KEMAL

Namık Kemal was an important writer, poet, and journalist who lived in the late Ottoman period. His ideas and works greatly influenced Turkish literature and intellectual life. He wrote about homeland, freedom, and nation. His ideas were important for Turkish nationalism and modernization.

Namık Kemal was born on December 21, 1840, in Tekirdağ. His real name was Mehmed Kemal. His father was a government worker. Namık Kemal received a good education and learned Arabic, Persian, and French. He became interested in literature and poetry at a young age. Meeting Şinasi, an important writer of the Tanzimat period, influenced his way of thinking and changed his literary perspective.

Namık Kemal did not see literature only as a form of art. He used it as a tool to raise public awareness and guide society. He wrote in different genres, including poetry, theater, and novels.

1.Poetry:

Namık Kemal wrote poems about freedom, patriotism, and heroism. Because of this, he was called “The Poet of Homeland.” One of his most famous poems, “Hürriyet Kasidesi” (Ode to Freedom), played an important role in spreading the idea of freedom in Ottoman society.

2.Plays:

Namık Kemal contributed to the development of Ottoman theater. His most famous play, “Vatan Yahut Silistre” (Homeland or Silistra), was staged in 1873. The play gained great attention, but the Ottoman government found it dangerous and banned it. After the play was performed, Namık Kemal was sent into exile in Famagusta.

3.Novels:

Namık Kemal wrote “İntibah,” which is considered the first literary novel in Turkish literature. Another novel, “Cezmi,” is the first Turkish historical novel. İntibah tells a personal story while also delivering social messages. Cezmi is a novel with historical themes.

Namık Kemal wanted people to learn and join the government. He was one of the leaders of the Young Turks movement. He supported a constitutional monarchy. He believed in freedom and people’s rights. The Ottoman government sent him to exile many times, but he never changed his ideas.

YAHYA KEMAL BEYATLI

Yahya Kemal Beyatlı is widely regarded as one of the most important poets in 20th-century Turkish literature. He masterfully combined the rich heritage of the Ottoman tradition with modern ideas, leaving a lasting mark on the literary world through his unique language, imagery, and themes. His poetry notably highlights the mystical atmosphere of Istanbul, deep historical insights, and cultural richness.

Born in 1884 in Istanbul, Yahya Kemal came from a family of Ottoman intellectuals and forward-thinking individuals. He developed a passion for literature at an early age and pursued his education both in Istanbul and abroad. Throughout his life, he held several diplomatic positions, representing his country on the international stage. These experiences broadened his worldview and greatly influenced his poetic language, giving his work a universal perspective.

Yahya Kemal remained true to the traditional Ottoman divan poetry while also embracing the influences of modern poetic movements. His writing is characterized by rich descriptions, a fluid narrative style, and a keen aesthetic sense. Common themes in his work include Istanbul, history, love, and nature. In his poetry, he builds a bridge between the grandeur of the past and the dynamics of the present, offering readers both a nostalgic and contemporary experience.

The works of Yahya Kemal Beyatlı mark the beginning of a new era in Turkish poetry. By blending classic poetic forms with modern thought, he created texts that are rich in both style and substance. His renowned poems, such as “Sessiz Gemi” and “Rindlerin Akşamı,” are celebrated for their language and thematic depth. In addition, his essays and articles on history, culture, and civilization have earned him great respect in literary circles.

For Yahya Kemal, poetry was not only an art form but also a tool to create social and cultural awareness. His deep yearning for the splendor of the Ottoman past, combined with the innovations of the modern world, is clearly evident in his work. His poems emphasize national identity, the importance of civilization, and the value of cultural heritage, while also addressing universal themes. Today, his poetry remains a key reference in both literature studies and cultural debates.

HALİT ZİYA UŞAKLIĞİL

Halit Ziya Uşaklıgil is recognized as one of the key writers and translators who played a major role in the modernization of Turkish literature. As a prominent representative of the New Literature (Edebiyat-ı Cedide) movement, he successfully incorporated the influences of Western literature into his works and pioneered the development of the Turkish novel.

Born in 1866 in Istanbul, Halit Ziya Uşaklıgil received his education at some of the city's most prestigious schools. From an early age, he developed a keen interest in Western literature, an enthusiasm that is clearly reflected in his writings. Surrounded by literary circles and intellectuals, his life experiences enriched both his artistic vision and social observations. Throughout his career, Uşaklıgil took on significant roles in the fields of literature, translation, and writing, thereby contributing to the intellectual culture of his era.

Halit Ziya Uşaklıgil is regarded as one of the founders of the Turkish novel. In his literary works, he ingeniously combined innovative narrative techniques acquired from Western literature with traditional Turkish culture and customs. His writing is noted for its fluent language, rich descriptive detail, and profound character analysis.

- *Aşk-ı Memnu*: One of his most celebrated works, “Aşk-ı Memnu” deals with the theme of forbidden love while also reflecting the contradictions of society and the inner lives of individuals.

- *Mai ve Siyah*: In this novel, the themes of individual inner life, social change, and modernization are prominently featured.

- In his other works, he similarly addresses these themes and offers social criticism through his character portrayals.

In his works, Uşaklıgil explored the inner conflicts of individuals and the broader social transformations of his time, thereby portraying a modern image of the individual. The psychological depth and keen social observation present in his novels have had a lasting impact on later generations of writers. As a significant figure in the New Literature movement, he is considered a turning point in the evolution of Turkish literature in both language and narrative style. His works laid the groundwork for modern Turkish novels and paved the way for innovative literary movements.



NAMIK KEMAL



YAHYA KEMAL BEYATLI



HALİT ZİYA UŞAKLIĞİL

ZİYA PAŞA

Ziya Paşa (1825-1880) was one of the important poets and writers of the Tanzimat Period. He remained loyal to the Divan literature tradition while also being influenced by Western literature. In his works, he addressed freedom, justice, civilization, and other societal values.

Important Works:

1.Harabat (1874)

This is an anthology that defends Divan literature. It caused a difference of opinion with Namık Kemal. This work reflects Ziya Paşa's perspective, advocating for the classical poetry tradition.

2.Terkib-i Bent ve Redif (1866)

A collection of poems written in adherence to classical Divan poetry, using terkil-i bent and redif rhyme schemes.

3.Zafername (1873)

A work where he addresses his social and political views. It critiques the corrupt Ottoman government and discusses the ideas of freedom and civilization borrowed from the West.

4.Deftter-i Amal (1880)

Ziya Paşa's final work, where he questions individual and societal life, expressing his interest in Western culture and desire for freedom.

Ziya Paşa combined classical Turkish poetry with Western literature, creating an innovative literary style .

ŞİNASÎ

Sinasî (1812-1871) was one of the important poets and writers of the Tanzimat period. He embraced the Divan literature tradition while also developing an innovative language influenced by Western literature. Sinasî laid the foundations of modern Turkish poetry and addressed themes such as freedom and social change in his works.

Important Works:

1. Terkib-i Bent (1859)

One of Sinasî's most famous poems, written in line with the Divan literature tradition. The poet uses classical poetic meters to create deep meanings and an aesthetic language.

2. Şairname (1860)

This important work outlines Sinasî's understanding of literature, his views on the role of poets, and emphasizes the social responsibilities of poetry, while also referencing Western poetry.

3. Divan (1871)

Another significant work by Sinasî, the Divan is a collection of poems where he blends classical poetry with innovative influences from the West.

Sinasî contributed significantly to Turkish literature by combining classical Turkish poetry with Western trends, playing a key role in shaping Tanzimat period poetry.



SAMİPAŞAZADE SEZAI

Samipaşazâde Sezai (1859-1936) was an important figure bridging the Tanzimat and Servet-i Fünun literary periods, and a pioneer of the realist movement in Turkish literature. Known as both a poet and novelist, Sezai's works offer profound observations on societal issues and the struggles of individual life. He is considered one of the key figures who introduced the Western-style novel to Turkish literature.

Important Works:

1.Ferdi ve Şurekâ (1893)

This is Sezai's first novel, written with a realist perspective. The work explores individual and societal conflicts and delves deeply into human psychology and character analysis. It also advocates for justice in society and individual freedom.

2.Sergüzeşt (1889)

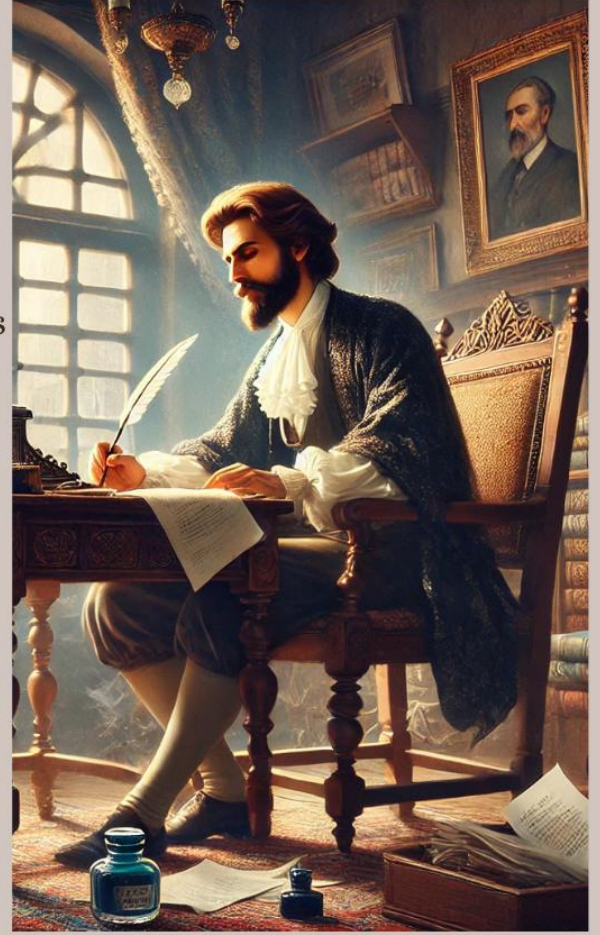
One of Sezai's most famous works, *Sergüzeşt* addresses themes such as women's rights, social injustice, and individual freedom. The novel adopts the realist movement and portrays the struggles of people and how individuals cope with these difficulties. It is also considered one of the first examples of modern Turkish novels.

3.Aşk-ı Memnu

This work holds an important place in Sezai's literary career. It is centered on themes of love and inner conflict, shedding light on the social structure of the time.

Samipaşazâde Sezai is one of the key representatives of the realist movement in Turkish literature.

Through his works, which deeply examine society, he had a significant impact on the literary world of his time. As both a novelist and poet, he played a crucial role in shaping Turkish literature along Western lines.



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